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NORTH CAROLINA



COOPERATIVE CROP REPORTING SERVICE

SUBJECT	CONTENTS	PAGE
N. C. PRICES RECEIVED.....		1 & 2
U. S. PRICES RECEIVED.....		1 & 2
WINTER WHEAT CROP.....		1
U. S. RYE CROP.....		1
APPLE CROP.....		2 & 3
FEED PRICES PAID.....		3
CLOTHING PRICES.....		3
N. C. PIG CROP.....		4
LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER.....		4

No. 125

RALEIGH, N. C.

JANUARY 6, 1953

## AGRICULTURAL PRICES AND OTHER CURRENT ITEMS

### N. C. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX DOWN 14 POINTS

The "All Farm Products" index of prices received by North Carolina farmers at local markets dropped 14 points during the month ended December 15. A slight increase in the index for grains, tobacco, poultry, dairy and miscellaneous products was not sufficient to off-set lower prices for cotton and cottonseed and meat animals. The December 15 "All Farm Products" index of 285 compares with an index of 310 a year ago and an index of 314 on December 15, 1950 (See table on page 2).

The grains commodity index increased from 194 to 196 during the month ended December 15 due to slightly higher prices for corn, wheat and barley.

(Continued on Page 2)

### U. S. RYE CROP IN POOR CONDITION

Fall reports indicate that 115,000 acres of rye have been seeded in North Carolina for the 1953 crop, the same as for 1952 but 27 percent below the 1941-50 average. Only 15,000 acres were harvested in 1952 as compared to a 29,000-acre average from 1941-50. The reported condition of the crop as of December 1, 1952, was 86 percent, comparing with 87 percent a year earlier and an average of 85 percent on December 1 from 1940-49.

The total acreage seeded in the United States for 1953 is estimated at 3,334,000 acres or about 7 percent above that for 1952 but nearly 24 percent below the 10-year average. A condition of 67 percent was reported on December 1 - close to the lowest of record. This low condition reflects the combined effects of an unfavorable soil moisture reserve, poor germination, and generally limited growth by December 1. A condition of 88 was reported a year ago while the 10-year average for December 1 stands at 86 percent.

### U. S. PRICES RECEIVED DOWN 3 PERCENT; PARITY RATIO LOWEST SINCE APRIL, 1950

The Index of Prices Received by Farmers declined 8 points (3 percent) during the month ended December 15, 1952, to 269 percent of the 1910-14 average. At this point the index, which has declined for 4 consecutive months, was 12 percent below December 1951, and the lowest in over two years. Declines in prices received by farmers for cattle, cotton, eggs, hogs, and milk were largely responsible for the decrease in the index during the last month.

The mid-December Parity Index (Prices Paid for Commodities, Interest, Taxes, and Wage Rates) remained unchanged at the 1952 low established on November 15. Lower Prices were reported for feeder and replacement livestock and for clothing and household furnishings. On the other hand, food, household operation items, and auto-

(Continued on Page 2)

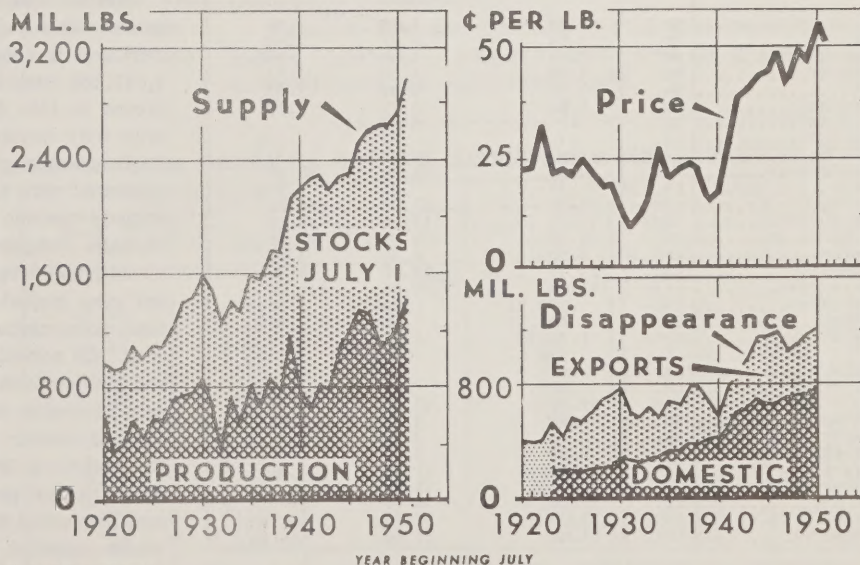
### SMALL WINTER WHEAT CROP FOR 1953

Based upon Fall reports from growers, it is estimated that 427,000 acres of wheat have been seeded for the 1953 crop in North Carolina. This is the same as the planted acreage for 1952 and 1951 and compares with the 1941-50 average of 473,000 acres. There were 396,000 acres harvested in the State in 1952; 392,000 in 1951; and an average of 435,000 acres from 1941-50. The condition of the crop on or about December 1, 1952, indicates a production of 8,540,000 bushels for 1953, slightly more than the 8,316,000 bushels produced in 1952 and about 28 percent more than the 10-year average.

Meanwhile, United States production of winter wheat for 1953 is forecast at 611,141,000 bushels. This is almost 42 percent below the 1952 crop of slightly over one billion bushels and about 24 percent

(Continued on Page 4)

## FLUE-CURED TOBACCO \*



\* UNITED STATES

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

YEAR BEGINNING JULY

NEG. 46071A-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS



### N. C. PRICES RECEIVED (Cont'd)

Lower prices for cotton and cottonseed resulted in a drop of 11 points in the cotton and cottonseed index.

The tobacco index included only Types 11 and 31 sales since since all markets in Types 12 and 13 closed prior to December 15. The level of prices for Type 31 (burley) was more than sufficient to off-set the decrease of 6.5 cents in the average price of Type 11 tobacco.

The meat animals index dropped 8 points as the result of lower prices for all meat animals in the index except veal calves, which was unchanged at \$22.30. Beef cattle prices have declined gradually each month from \$24.20 last March to \$17.00 on December 15. Hog prices declined for the fifth consecutive month and the December 15 price of \$17.10 compares with \$21.00 on August 15.

The poultry index increased two points due to an increase of one cent in the price of chickens. Eggs were unchanged at 60 cents per dozen.

The miscellaneous products index increased 19 points as the result of higher prices for peanuts, cowpeas, wool, potatoes, sweet potatoes and apples.

### U. S. PRICES RECEIVED (Cont'd)

mobile prices were up. At 281, the Parity Index for mid-December was 3 percent under the all-time high of 289 recorded last April and May, and 1 percent under a year ago.

The Parity Ratio (ratio of the Index of Prices Received to the Parity Index) dropped to 96 in mid-December, the lowest since April 1950.

*This year's production of deciduous fruits will be about 9 percent below a year ago and 5 percent below average. Declines in prospects during October for apples and pears more than offset an increase for grapes.*

### PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS DECEMBER 15, 1952 WITH COMPARISONS:

COMMODITY	UNIT	NORTH CAROLINA		U. S.
		Nov. 15 1952	Dec. 15 1952	Dec. 15 1952
DOLLARS -				
CORN.....	BU.	1.69	1.73	1.50
WHEAT.....	BU.	2.09	2.11	2.12
OATS.....	BU.	1.09	1.08	.842
BARLEY.....	BU.	1.48	1.50	1.41
RYE.....	BU.	2.55	2.52	1.73
SOYBEANS.....	BU.	2.60	2.60	2.75
COWPEAS.....	BU.	-	4.30	-
PEANUTS.....	LB.	.11	.114	.110
COTTON.....	LB.	.350	.335	.317
COTTONSEED.....	TON	70.00	69.50	68.50
WOOL.....	LB.	.51	.52	.499
HOGS.....	CWT.	17.50	17.10	16.00
BEEF CATTLE.....	CWT.	17.50	17.00	19.70
VEAL CALVES.....	CWT.	22.30	22.30	22.40
SHEEP.....	CWT.	9.50	8.50	7.49
LAMBS.....	CWT.	24.10	23.60	19.50
MILK COWS.....	HEAD	154.00	155.00	213.00
CHICKENS.....	LB.	.279	.286	.264
EGGS.....	DOZ.	.60	.60	.466
MILK, WHLSE.....	CWT.	6.30 <i>a/</i>	6.25 <i>b/</i>	5.19
RETAIL.....		.219	.219	.214
BUTTER.....	LB.	.57	.58	-
BUTTERFAT.....	LB.	.60	.60	.701
HAY, ALL BALED.....	TON	32.80	32.90	26.40
POTATOES.....	BU.	2.80	2.85	1.99
SWEET POTATOES.....	BU.	3.10	3.40	3.62
APPLES COMMERCIAL.....	BU.	2.00	2.60	3.10
LESPEDeza SEED.....	CWT.	15.60	17.20	17.20
KOREAN.....	CWT.	14.00	15.80	-
KOBE.....	CWT.	17.00	18.50	-
COM. & TENN. 76.....	CWT.	20.00	21.00	-
SERICEA.....	CWT.	21.00	21.50	-

*a/ Revised b/ Preliminary*

### COMPARISON OF U. S. PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS AND PARITY PRICES

COMMODITY	PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS		PARITY OR COMPARABLE PRICES		AVERAGE PRICES AS PERCENTAGE OF PARITY	
	Nov. 15 1952	Dec. 15 1952	Nov. 15 1952	Dec. 15 1952	Nov. 15 1952	Dec. 15 1952
- DOLLARS -						
COTTON, LB.....	.3405	.3171	.342	.341	100	93
WHEAT, BU.....	2.13	2.12	2.44	2.43	87	87
CORN, BU.....	1.45	1.50	1.77	1.77	82	85
OATS, BU.....	.845	.842	.935 <i>c/</i>	.935 <i>c/</i>	90	90
BARLEY, BU.....	1.43	1.41	1.45 <i>c/</i>	1.44 <i>c/</i>	99	98
RYE, BU.....	1.79	1.73	1.65	1.65	108	105
BEEF CATTLE, CWT	21.30	19.70	20.70	20.70	103	105
HOGS, CWT.....	16.70	16.00	21.00	21.00	80	76
LAMBS, CWT.....	20.90	19.50	22.70	22.70	92	86
CHICKENS, LB.....	.264	.264	.318	.318	83	83
EGGS, DOZ.....	.519	.466	.504 <i>c/</i>	.502 <i>c/</i>	88 <i>d/</i>	79 <i>d/</i>
MILK, WHLSE, CWT.	5.33 <i>a/</i>	5.19 <i>b/</i>	4.72	4.72	103 <i>d/</i>	100 <i>d/</i>

*a/ Revised b/ Preliminary c/ Transitional parity 85 percent (90 percent during 1951) of parity price computed under formula in use prior to Jan. 1, 1950 d/ Percentage of seasonally adjusted prices to parity prices.*

### NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES INDEX NUMBERS (N.C. PRICES RECEIVED 1909-14 = 100 PERCENT)

COMMODITY	Nov. 15 1952	Dec. 15 1952	Dec. 15 1951	Dec. 15 1950	Dec. 15 1949
NORTH CAROLINA INDEX NUMBERS					
ALL FARM PRODUCTS..	299	285	310	314	227
COTTON & COTTONSEED	279	268	321	339	211
GRAINS.....	194	196	195	184	159
MEAT ANIMALS.....	335	327	410	373	310
POULTRY.....	288	290	303	314	261
DAIRY PRODUCTS.....	255	256	250	236	228
TOBACCO.....	352 <i>b/</i>	360	356	382	276
MISCELLANEOUS.....	281	300	269	232	225
RATIO OF PRICES RECEIVED TO PAID- <i>a/</i>	106	101	109	118	95
UNITED STATES INDEX NUMBERS					
PRICES RECEIVED....	277	269	305	286	236
INTEREST & TAXES..	281	281	284	265	240
RATIO OF PRICES RECEIVED TO PAID..	99	96	107	108	98

*a/ Ratio of N. C. prices received to U. S. prices paid.*

*b/ Type 11 and Type 31*

### RECORD APPLE CROP

North Carolina produced a commercial apple crop of 2,053,000 bushels this year, 61.8 percent more than the 1,269,000 bushels produced in 1951 and 96.5 percent above the 1941-50 average of 1,045,000 bushels. This is the largest commercial apple crop recorded in this State since separate estimates of the commercial crop were begun in 1934.

Production of winter varieties amounted to 1,908,000 bushels compared with 1,154,000 bushels in 1951, fall varieties 124,000 bushels against 102,000 last season and summer varieties 21,000 bushels, compared with 13,000 bushels in 1951.

Although weather conditions were such that most varieties did not size properly, the increased number of apples per tree more than compensated for reduction in size, thus resulting in a full crop. All varieties, with the exception of Grimes Golden, Jonathan and Golden Delicious, exceeded last year's production. The most noted increase was in the Delicious variety with a production of 574,000 bushels this year compared with 152,000 bushels in 1951. By varieties, Grimes Golden accounted for 50 percent of the total fall varieties' production while Delicious, Rome Beauty and Staymen accounted for 30, 13 and 20 percent respectively of the total winter varieties production.

(Continued on Page 3)



## RECORD APPLE CROP (Cont'd)

The 1952 commercial apple crop for the Nation totaled 92,696,000 bushels — 16 percent less than the 110,660,000 bushels produced the previous year and 15 percent below the 1941-50 average of 109,017,000 bushels.

## COMMERCIAL APPLE PRODUCTION, BY VARIETIES

VARIETIES	NORTH CAROLINA			UNITED STATES *		
	PRODUCTION					
	AVERAGE 1942-50	1951	1952	AVERAGE 1942-50	1951	1952
- THOUSAND BUSHELS -						
GRAVENSTINE.....	-	-	-	2,695	2,176	2,568
OTHER SUMMER VARIETIES..	16	13	21	3,103	3,495	2,498
TOTAL SUMMER VARIETIES	16	13	21	5,799	5,671	5,066
GRIMES GOLDEN.....	32	76	62	2,330	2,642	1,863
JONATHAN.....	10	13	-	7,881	8,152	5,519
WEALTHY.....	-	-	-	2,178	2,073	1,602
OTHER FALL VARIETIES..	37	13	62	2,601	2,494	2,103
TOTAL FALL VARIETIES..	80	102	124	14,969	15,361	11,087
BALDWIN.....	-	-	-	3,721	3,351	2,458
BEN DAVIS AND GANO.....	22	13	21	2,271	2,291	1,551
BLACK TWIG (PARAGON)...	44	25	41	822	726	544
CORTLAND.....	-	-	-	1,835	3,064	2,177
DELICIOUS.....	195	152	574	22,218	17,192	20,839
GOLDEN DELICIOUS.....	127	267	204	2,697	3,615	3,374
MCINTOSH.....	-	-	-	10,065	13,354	7,229
NORTHERN SPY.....	-	-	-	1,842	2,124	1,825
ROME BEAUTY.....	74	152	246	6,565	7,828	6,260
STAYMAN.....	222	330	390	5,145	5,625	3,791
WINESAP.....	62	38	62	11,919	10,471	10,393
R. I. GREENING.....	-	-	-	2,199	3,649	1,257
YORK IMPERIAL.....	21	25	41	5,595	4,888	5,353
YELLOW NEWTOWN.....	-	-	-	4,473	4,435	4,401
OTHER WINTER VARIETIES..	182	152	329	6,882	7,015	5,091
TOTAL WINTER VARIETIES	950	1,154	1,908	88,249	89,628	76,543
TOTAL VARIETIES.....	1,045	1,269	2,053	109,017	110,660	92,696

\* U. S. figures total for 35 Commercial producing States

## CLOTHING PRICES INCREASE

Average prices paid by North Carolina farmers for specified clothing items on September 15, 1952 were generally higher than prices paid around June 15, 1952. The only items showing a decrease from the previous quarter were cotton trousers, men's work shoes, muslin and percale. Prices of all remaining items were either unchanged or above the averages of mid-June. Compared with September 15, 1951 prices for most items were somewhat lower.

Prices paid for clothing by North Carolina farmers were slightly lower than those paid by U. S. farmers.

FEED PRICES PAID BY FARMERS DEC. 15, 1952  
WITH COMPARISONS

FEED PER HUNDREDWEIGHT	NORTH CAROLINA		UNITED STATES	
	Nov. 15 1952	Dec. 15 1952	Nov. 15 1952	Dec. 15 1952
- DOLLARS -				
MIXED DAIRY FEED UNDER 29% PROTEIN..				
ALL.....	4.35	4.30	4.38	4.38
16% PROTEIN.....	4.15	4.10	4.27	4.27
18% PROTEIN.....	4.85	4.20	4.39	4.42
20% PROTEIN.....	4.65	4.55	4.52	4.54
24% PROTEIN.....	-	4.60	4.88	4.85
29% - OVER.....	5.50	5.40	5.41	5.39
HIGH PROTEIN FEEDS				
LINSEED MEAL.....	-	-	5.40	5.42
SOYBEAN MEAL.....	5.30	5.30	5.46	5.34
COTTONSEED MEAL.....	4.60	4.60	5.22	5.19
MEAT SCRAP.....	6.50	6.40	6.44	6.31
GRAIN BY-PRODUCTS				
BRAN.....	4.10	4.10	3.70	3.69
MIDDINGS.....	4.30	4.25	3.88	3.82
CORN MEAL.....	4.85	4.75	4.08	4.04
CORN GLUTEN.....	-	-	4.23	4.23
POULTRY FEED				
LAYING MASH.....	5.40	5.40	5.20	5.16
SCRATCH GRAIN.....	4.75	4.65	4.54	4.50

## MOST FEED PRICES LOWER

North Carolina farmers paid from 5 to 15 cents less per hundredweight for mixed dairy feeds during the month ended December 15. Prices paid for high protein feeds were unchanged, except for a decrease of 10 cents in the price of meat scrap. Corn meal and poultry scratch grain prices declined 10 cents while wheat middlings dropped 5 cents with no change being recorded in prices paid for bran and laying mash.

Compared with the same period a year ago, current prices paid for mixed dairy feeds averaged 6 cents less than the 1951 prices paid. However, soybean and cottonseed meal were up 20 and 30 cents respectively, while meat scrap was 10 cents below last year's price. Corn meal, middlings and laying mash prices were 10 cents higher this year while bran and poultry scratch grain prices were 5 cents below those paid in 1951.

## DECREASE IN CHICKS HATCHED

North Carolina's hatcheries produced 3,379,000 chicks during November. This is about 6 percent less than the 3,611,000 chicks produced last month and 14.3 percent less than the 3,941,000 chicks produced in November 1951.

During the first eleven months of 1952 chick output in the State totaled 57,093,000 — almost 4 percent over the 55,060,000 chicks produced during the same period of 1951.

## AVERAGE PRICES PAID BY NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES FARMERS FOR SPECIFIED CLOTHING ITEMS WITH COMPARISONS 1951-52

ITEMS	UNIT	NORTH CAROLINA			UNITED STATES		
		JUNE 15 1952	SEPT. 15 1952	SEPT. 15 1951	JUNE 15 1952	SEPT. 15 1952	SEPT. 15 1951
- DOLLARS -							
SUITS, WOOL, 1 PAIR PANTS....	EACH	40.00	40.00	42.00	43.40	43.10	46.30
EXTRA TROUSERS, WOOLEN.....	PAIR	9.70	10.50	11.00	11.00	11.20	11.60
TROUSERS, COTTON.....	PAIR	3.90	3.85	4.05	3.97	4.00	4.17
OVERALLS.....	PAIR	3.25	3.25	3.30	3.43	3.45	3.48
SHIRTS, COTTON, WORK.....	EACH	2.05	2.15	2.20	1.90	1.91	2.00
SOCKS, COTTON, WORK.....	PAIR	.30	.31	.30	.297	.301	.303
UNDERSHIRTS.....	EACH	.61	.66	.64	.65	.656	.676
SHORTS.....	PAIR	.75	.79	.80	.766	.774	.806
SHOES, WORK, MEN'S.....	PAIR	6.80	6.70	6.90	6.94	6.97	7.32
BOOTS, RUBBER, KNEE-LENGTH...	PAIR	6.00	6.00	6.20	6.13	6.17	6.16
DRESSES, HOUSE, PERCALE.....	EACH	2.95	2.95	2.95	3.04	3.08	3.15
RAYON PANTIES.....	PAIR	.60	.61	.61	.655	.648	.695
SHOES OR OXFORDS, WOMEN'S...	PAIR	5.40	5.30	5.70	5.50	5.46	5.78
MUSLIN, UNBLEACHED 36" WIDE..	YARD	.30	.28	.31	.325	.317	.353
PERCALE, 36" WIDE.....	YARD	.48	.39	.42	.467	.466	.498



# FARM REPORT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Raleigh, N. C.

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JANUARY 6, 1953

FARM REPORT

PAGE 4

## WINTER WHEAT (Cont'd)

below the 10-year average. General drouth conditions in the late Summer and Fall prevailed over practically the entire Nation

## NORTH CAROLINA & UNITED STATES LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER NOVEMBER 1951-52\*

SPECIES	NORTH CAROLINA				UNITED STATES			
	NUMBER SLAUGHTERED		TOTAL LIVESTOCK		NUMBER SLAUGHTERED		TOTAL LIVESTOCK	
	1951 a/	1952	1951 a/	1952	1951 a/	1952	1951 a/	1952
	THOUS. HEAD	THOUS. HEAD	THOUS. POUNDS	THOUS. POUNDS	THOUS. HEAD	THOUS. HEAD	THOUS. POUNDS	THOUS. POUNDS
CATTLE..	9.2	9.4	7,216	7,489	1,515.2	1,540.7	1,454,882	1,451,944
CALVES..	4.1	3.2	738	558	752.8	820.5	166,303	190,715
SHEEP & LAMBS...	.1	.1	12	10	1,014.4	1,180.2	100,193	112,395
HOGS....	58.0	71.0	13,174	15,176	7,855.8	7,098.5	1,831,617	1,654,856

A/ Revised \* Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other wholesale and retail slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.

## N.C.FALL PIG CROP AND SPRING FARROWING INTENTIONS DOWN

North Carolina's Fall pig crop totaled 752,000 head, farrowed by 114,000 sows for an average of 6.6 pigs per litter. This is about 15 percent below the 1951 Fall pig crop of 884,000 head. Spring pig production this year totaled 1,071,000 head, bringing the number for the year to 1,823,000.

The number of sows farrowing in the State this Fall was about 13 percent below intentions expressed earlier by producers. Intentions for the Spring of 1953 are for 139,000 sows to farrow. This is about 18 percent below the 170,000 sows which farrowed last Spring.

The 1952 U. S. pig crop totaled 91.8 million head, a decrease of 10 percent from last year. The Spring crop was down 9 percent and the Fall crop 11 percent. The number of sows farrowing this Fall was 12 percent smaller than last year but the number of pigs saved per litter, at 6.65, is equal to the record-high Fall litter size in 1950. The Fall pig crop at 35.4 million is the smallest Fall crop since 1948.

For the U. S. 1953 Spring crop, reports on breeding intentions indicate a total of 7.4 million sows to farrow, 13 percent below the number farrowing last Spring and 17 percent below the 10-year average.

## NOVEMBER COMMERCIAL HOG SLAUGHTER SETS NEW RECORD

North Carolina hog slaughter for the month of November totaled 15,176,000 pounds liveweight, an increase of 3 percent over the preceding month's record high of 14,764,000 pounds. The 71,000 hogs slaughtered also set a new record high, exceeding the October record by 1,000 head.

Cattle, calves and sheep and lambs slaughtered in November showed a decline of 21, 17 and 45 percent respectively from last month's total liveweight slaughtered.

Compared with the same period a year ago, the total liveweight of cattle slaughtered increased 3.8 percent or 273,000 pounds, while calves and sheep and lambs decreased 24.4 and 16.7 percent respectively.

Commercial slaughter of all meat animals in November totaled 83,700 head and 23,233,000 pounds liveweight. The total liveweight slaughtered was 7 percent less than October but 10 percent above November 1951.

## PIG CROP REPORT DECEMBER 1, 1952 - PIGS SAVED - N. C. & U. S.

	NORTH CAROLINA				UNITED STATES			
	10-YEAR AVERAGE 1941-50	1951	1952	1953 INTENDED 1/	10-YEAR AVERAGE 1941-50	1951	1952	1953 INTENDED 1/
- THOUSAND HEAD -								
SPRING (DEC.1-JUNE 1)								
SOWS FARROWED.....	134	152	170	139	8,962	9,591	8,504	7,395
PIGS SAVED.....	837	973	1,071	-	56,242	62,007	56,430	48,0002/
PIGS PER LITTER*...	-	6.4	6.3	-	6.29	6.47	6.64	-
FALL (JUNE 1-DEC.1)								
SOWS FARROWED.....	109	130	114	-	5,638	6,032	5,318	-
PIGS SAVED.....	698	884	752	-	36,312	39,804	35,355	-
PIGS PER LITTER*...	-	6.8	6.6	-	6.45	6.60	6.65	-
ANNUAL TOTAL (DEC.1) TO DEC.1)								
PIGS SAVED.....	1,535	1,857	1,823	-	92,554	101,811	91,785	-

1/ Indicated from breeding intentions reported.

2/ Average number of pigs per litter with allowance for trend used to compute indicated numbers of spring pigs. Number rounded to nearest 500,000 head.

\* Pigs per litter - actual number.